Community Contact

Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs

May 2006

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A mine exploration crew worker uses a portable plugger drill to bore holes for rock blasting (photo courtesy of Manitoba Geological Survey, IEDM).

Manitoba
Building for the Future

2008-04070/

This Issue

Welcome to the May 2006 Community Contact newsletter. In this issue we are pleased to present information and stories that are relevant to the communities represented by Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs (ANA).

We feature two articles with a focus on economic development. The first article looks at mining exploration in northern Manitoba, some of the exploration projects underway and how residents and communities can participate in the mining process. A second article provides information on how communities, organizations and schools can obtain funding for special projects or activities that will protect, enhance, conserve and rehabilitate Manitoba's environment for today and the future.

This issue also contains follow-up articles on fire safety and the return of the Northern Water Smart Program. Now that warmer weather has arrived, communities and residents will need to be aware of the potential for forest and grass fires and know what to do to be prepared. You will also learn more about the highly successful Northern Water Smart program that was first featured in the September 2005 Community Contact. The program is back in expanded form to allow participation by more communities.

We are pleased to report on the successful graduation of five ANA community constables who completed an extensive three-week training program hosted by the RCMP in March, 2006. One of our standing features, Certification Corner has returned with more sample test questions intended to give waterworks operators practice answering questions similar to those found on certification exams.

Enjoy this issue and feel free to contact us with your comments, article suggestions or to request additional copies.

MINING Growing

Mining companies spent $328 million in Manitoba over the past 10 years. Renewed interest in diamond exploration in Manitoba's far north and near record-high prices for nickel, copper, zinc and gold are expected to increase exploration spending in the province by about $50 million more in 2006 alone.

Increases in exploration and evaluation of mineral properties mean more direct employment and service sector opportunities for Manitobans, particularly in northern region communities.

Manitoba's mining industry is the province's second largest primary resource industry, contributing over $1 billion in mineral production each year to the economy. The industry employs about 3,700 people directly, and over 13,000 more indirectly through spin-off businesses.

There are five major stages in the business of mining. These are sometimes called the mining cycle or mining sequence:

1. exploration—looking for evidence of valuable metals like gold, nickel, copper and zinc
2. evaluation—determining if minerals found can be developed into an economic deposit
3. development—constructing a mine
4. production—operating a mine
5. closure—shutting a mine down and returning the mine site to a natural state

In this industry a great deal of time and money are often spent without ever finding a mine. It can take several years and several million dollars worth of exploration before a discovery is made. Many projects are abandoned early in the exploration stage. In fact, only one in 1,000 mineral exploration projects are successful.

EXPLORATION
in Northern Manitoba

Knowing more about the mineral industry can help individuals by encouraging them to consider all the stages of the mining business as potential sources of jobs and income. It can also help communities make decisions, plan, prepare and benefit from potential opportunities for new jobs, training, business ventures and community economic development.

How to Learn More and Participate

Manitoba's Geology

Manitoba provides geological information to assist exploration in the province. The information is published in reports, maps and databases and is available for anyone to use. For example, mining companies and prospectors often use this data to help them with their exploration projects. Communities can also use the information to help assess the potential for economic mineral deposits in their regions. All of this information is available online at www.gov.mb.ca/iedm/mrd.

Community Presentations

If you would like to have a provincial government geologist come to your community to tell you more about Manitoba's geology, mineral resources and the mining cycle, contact Manitoba Industry, Economic Development and Mines (MIEDM) at 204-945-6569, toll free 1-800-223-5215, or e-mail minesinfo@gov.mb.ca.

Manitoba Minerals Guideline

This guideline shows how Manitoba's Aboriginal, Metis and northern communities are working together with the minerals industry and the provincial government to build a strong mineral industry. The guideline helps to ensure that the needs of the industry are balanced with those of our communities and the environment. The guideline is available on the web at www.gov.mb.ca/iedm/mrd/busdev/guideline, or call MIEDM to obtain a print copy.

A specially-equipped airplane is used for airborne surveys to help locate minerals (photo courtesy of Spectrem Air Limited).

Prospector Training Program

The University College of the North (UCN) in The Pas offers a Prospector Training Program. This training teaches wilderness navigation and survival, mineral identification, Manitoba's geology, claim staking, prospecting and exploration techniques, and Manitoba's mining laws and regulations. It's one of the first steps for anyone who would like to become a prospector. For more information, contact UCN at 204-627-8595, toll free 1-866-627-8500, bmurray@ucn.ca, or visit www.ucn.ca.

Geology Program Bursary

Manitoba Industry, Economic Development and Mines offers three $1,000 bursaries annually for the Geology program at Brandon University (BU). Preference is given to Aboriginal students. For more information, contact BU at 204-728-9520, or visit www.brandonu.ca.

Aboriginal Mining Workshop

Another way to learn more about exploration and mining is to attend the annual Aboriginal Mining Workshop held as part of the Manitoba Mining and Minerals Convention. The next workshop is on November 21, 2006 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. Registration is free to Aboriginal community members. For more information, call 204-945-6584 or toll free 1-800-223-5215.

Associations

CAMA (Canadian Aboriginal Minerals Association), 5 Cedarland Drive, Toronto, Ontario M9A 2J7. Phone: 416-925-0866. Fax: 416-925-1709. Website: www.aboriginalminerals.com.

CANDO (Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers), 9635 - 45 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 5Z8. Phone: 780-990-0303 or toll free 1-800-463-9300. Fax: 780-429-7487. E-mail: Cando@edo.ca. Website: www.edo.ca.

Resource Materials

Our Community... Our Future: Mining and Aboriginal Communities. This video about geological mapping, mineral exploration and the mining sequence for Aboriginal communities in the far north of Ontario is available in English, French, Cree, Oji-Cree and Ojibwa. A free copy of the DVD can be ordered from www.nrcan.gc.ca/mms.

MINING CYCLE STAGE	JOB/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
Stage 1. Exploration Looking for mineral deposits, including • examining rocks • conducting ground or airborne surveys • staking and recording claims • drilling	• prospector • geologist • assistant • line cutting • claim staking • exploration assistants • drillers • camp workers
Stage 2. Evaluation Advanced exploration to determine if a deposit is economic, including: • detailed drilling • rock analysis • feasibility and environmental studies	• exploration assistants • drillers • camp workers • supplier of goods and services (ex: transportation, catering, building supplies, environmental studies, traditional knowledge)

Potential job and business opportunities at the exploration and evaluation stages

EXPLORATION PROJECTS (Region / Company / Project)

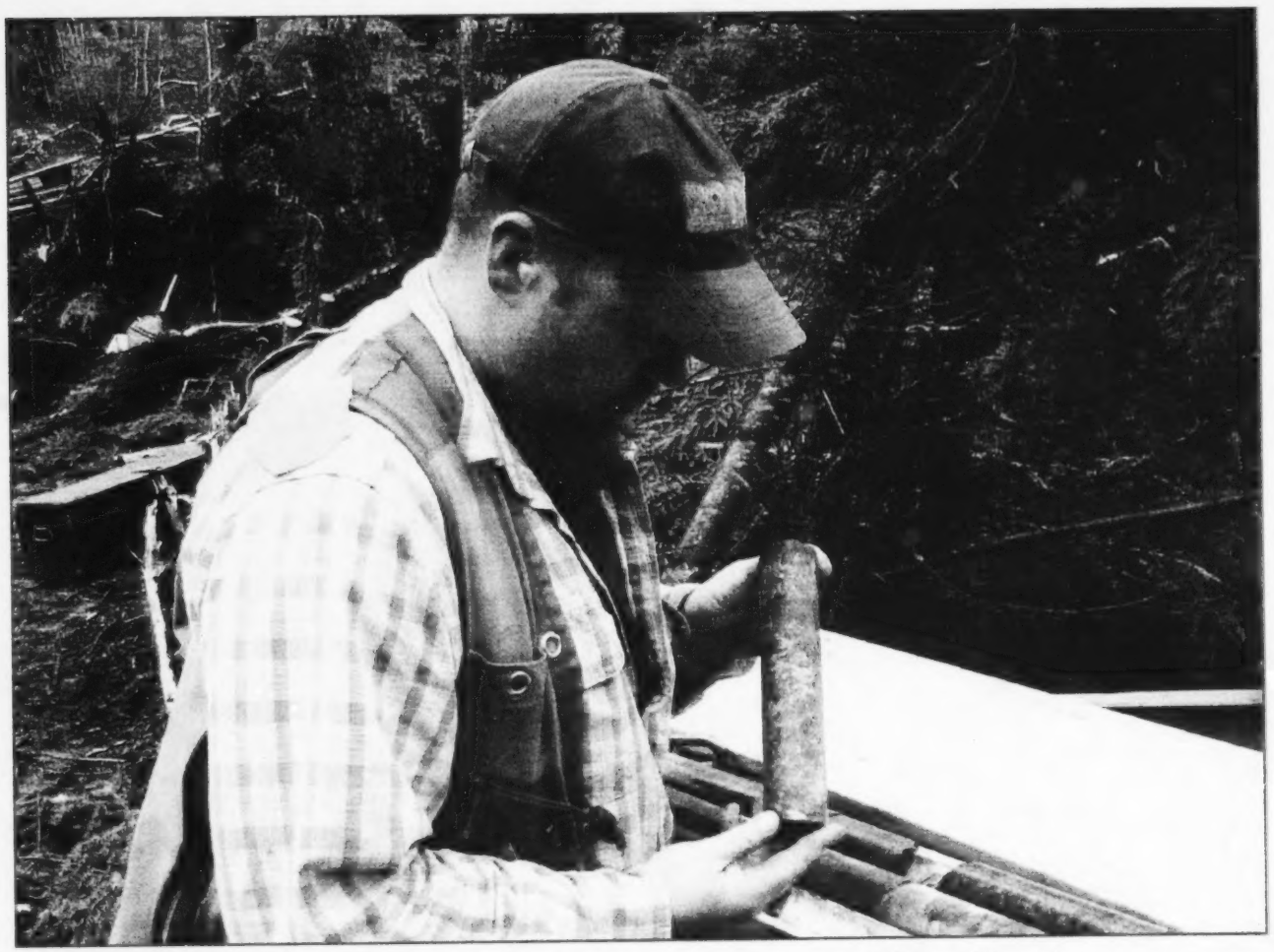
North-central

- Wabowden/Crowflight Minerals/nickel, copper
- Red Sucker Lake/Rolling Rock Resources/gold
- Oxford House/Rolling Rock Resources/gold
- Flin Flon/HudBay Minerals/copper, zinc
- Sherridon/Halo Resources/copper, zinc, gold
- Lynn Lake/North American Palladium/nickel, copper
- Lynn Lake/Rare Earth Metals/uranium, rare earth elements
- Lynn Lake/Seymour Exploration/nickel
- Snow Lake/Rare Earth Metals/copper, zinc
- Wabowden-Moose Lake/Nuinsco Resources/nickel
- Cross Lake/Cross Lake Minerals and Gossan Resources/titanium, vanadium

Southeastern

- Bissett/San Gold Corporation/gold
- Bissett/Wildcat Exploration/gold
- Powerview-Lac du Bonnet/Mustang Minerals/platinum group metals
- Bird Lake/Mustang Minerals/nickel, copper
- Lac du Bonnet/Tanco/tantalum, cesium

Current exploration projects in various regions of Manitoba



A mining survey worker examines a drill core sample for trace minerals. (Photo courtesy of Mustang Minerals).

Getting Support for

Sustainable Community Development Projects

Many Manitobans working on community development projects are including sustainability considerations to help protect, enhance, conserve and rehabilitate environment and improve the quality of life in their communities.

The Sustainable Development Innovations Fund (SDIF) supports projects ranging from research studies and demonstration of new technology to community enhancement and environmental awareness. SDIF helps communities meet their needs by providing grant funding to projects that demonstrate:

- partnerships between groups and individuals
- pride in the community
- concern for the environment
- long-term sustainability

Three grant funding programs sponsored by Manitoba Conservation through the SDIF are:

- SDIF Open Category
- Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention Fund (WRAPP)
- Environmental Youth Corps (EYC)

The SDIF Open Category

The SDIF Open Category provides support to projects such as research studies, demonstration of new technology, community enhancement and educational projects that help protect Manitoba's environment and add sustainability to Manitoba's economy, human health and social well-being.

Who can apply?

Municipal corporations, Northern Affairs and First Nation communities, private and non-profit organizations and businesses, educational institutions, youth and community groups are eligible to submit project proposals.

The fund's priority areas include:

- environmental technology innovation and demonstration
- northern community development and environmental issues
- sustainable community development
- sustainable agricultural practices
- ecosystem conservation
- understanding our environment
- eco-tourism

What projects can be supported?

Grant funds are available to projects that are ecologically sound, promote a sustainable approach, demonstrate clear environmental benefits and benefit the community and the economy. Projects must address one or more of the fund's priority areas and should incorporate youth involvement, community partnerships, education and knowledge sharing.

The maximum funding available is $50,000. Applications deadlines are five times each year on the 15th of April, June, August, October and December.

The Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention Fund (WRAPP)

WRAPP supports projects that involve waste reduction, pollution prevention and innovative integrated waste management practices. The fund's purpose is to help organizations, businesses and local governments move toward more sustainable waste management and prevention.

Who can apply?

Municipal corporations, Northern Affairs and First Nation communities, private and non-profit organizations, businesses, educational institutions and community groups are eligible to submit project proposals.

What projects can be supported?

Grant funds are available for Manitoba based projects that will:

- reduce or prevent waste and promote the environmental and economic benefits
- demonstrate techniques and knowledge other Manitoba communities and regions can use
- provide measurable sustainable waste diversion or reduction
- use proven technologies in innovative integrated waste management systems

Priority areas include:

- organic waste management and composting

- construction and demolition waste management
- pollution prevention
- model integrated waste management system development and planning

The maximum funding available is $50,000. Application deadlines are four times per year on the 15th of May, July, September and November.

The Environmental Youth Corps (EYC)

EYC offers young Manitobans opportunities to volunteer for community based, innovative projects that will help improve and protect Manitoba's environment. It also prepares youth for environmental challenges of tomorrow by helping them gain valuable education and experience today. EYC encourages projects that clean up communities, create green spaces and conserve wildlife habitat.

Who can apply?

- charitable and non-profit groups
- environmental organizations
- service clubs
- schools
- local governments
- Aboriginal groups
- First Nations

Individuals or groups not listed may submit a joint application with an eligible applicant. Partnerships with local businesses, municipalities or other groups are encouraged.

What projects can be supported?

Grants are available for Manitoba-based, environment-related projects with volunteer and educational aspects that support local action to sustain the environment, provide hands-on experience for youth up to age 24 and demonstrate how important volunteers are to communities. Projects must concern environmental protection, enhancement, rehabilitation, conservation or resource management. Projects should include young volunteers wherever possible.

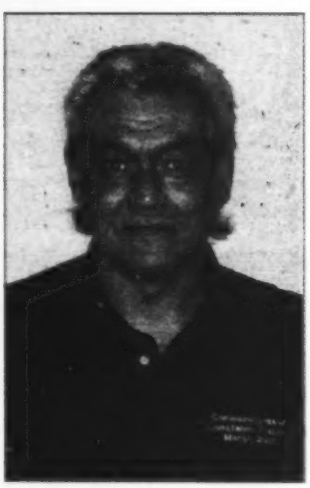
The maximum grant for each project is $5,000. Applications are reviewed several times per year.

For complete details, contact Manitoba Conservation, Pollution Prevention Branch at 204-945-8443, or toll free at 1-800-282-8069 extension 8443. You may also visit www.susdev.gov.mb.ca or e-mail sdif@gov.mb.ca with your questions.

Sustainable Development Innovations Fund grants can support conservation projects like this one near Grosse Isle, Manitoba.

Five New Graduates Join *ANA Community*

Paul Sutherland



Adelard DeLaronde

This past March, the Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs ANA Community Constable Program added five new constables to its ranks. They are Paul Sutherland of Camperville, John Veroneau of Crane River, Adelard DeLaronde of Duck Bay, Dwayne Hanson of Pikwitonei and Ovide Mercredi of Thicket Portage.

All five men graduated from a three-week program of intensive training held at RCMP "D" Division headquarters in Winnipeg. The training was a partnership between ANA, the RCMP Aboriginal Policing Directorate and Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada. This year, 27 Band and community constables graduated from the training session.

In Manitoba, the Band and community constable program dates back about 30 years. The program responded to requests for more effective police services in northern communities and First Nations. It included a culturally sensitive approach that encouraged local people to become involved in providing local police services. Constables are hired and managed by community councils and paid from the community's budget.

The first Manitoba community constable program was introduced in 1973. Patterned after the federal government-financed Band constable program, it was designed to allow communities or settled areas with more than 300 people have active crime prevention programs. Trained together by the RCMP, Band and community constables work directly with their communities. Though they can handle most day-to-day aspects of policing, they are trained to call on their local RCMP detachment to attend crime scenes and provide support in emergencies.

Prior to the constable programs, RCMP from detachments in larger communities throughout the province policed Manitoba's First Nations and Aboriginal communities unassisted. In many cases, shortage of staff and lack of reliable year-round access to more remote communities meant little or no actual police presence unless RCMP officers were summoned to deal with a serious crime or other crisis situation. Today, 33 of 49 ANA communities (68 per cent) have a policing service provided by a community constable, the RCMP or a joint agreement with a First Nation.

The constable program is making it increasingly common for the local constable in a First Nation or a neighbouring northern community to be a person who grew up there and who is well known and respected in the community.

Constable Program

Dwayne Hanson

John Veroneau

Ovide Mercredi

New Staff Member Joins ANA

Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs (ANA) welcomes Eric Ducharme as a technical and public works consultant. Eric started with the department in April 2006. He is based in the Dauphin Office.

Over the past 10 years Eric has acquired extensive private sector experience as a project manager, a design engineer and a contract administrator. He has worked on various infrastructure projects including lagoons, water treatment plants, road reconstruction, waste disposal sites and buildings. Eric is a graduate of the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering.

Eric is a member of the Ebb & Flow First Nation and lives in the rural community of Kinosota. He enjoys many outdoor activities that include hunting, fishing, baseball and coaching youth in various sports. Eric is thrilled about joining ANA and hopes his experience will help benefit Aboriginal people and their communities. He looks forward to visiting and meeting new acquaintances in each community.

ANA technical and public works consultant, Eric Ducharme.

Northern Water Smart Program Returns

Last summer's Northern Water Smart program was a huge success, drawing over 500 participants from six northern communities. This year, five provincial government departments, led by Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs, along with the federal government's Summer Career Program and Sport Manitoba, have provided funding for an even bigger and better program. Will your community get involved this year?

The Lifesaving Society developed the Northern Water Smart program to address high rates of drowning and near drowning that occur annually in northern Manitoba.

A skilled lifeguard instructor, or perhaps even two, will spend a week in each of 12 northern communities. The program will run from mid-June until the end of August.

Instructors will provide Swim to Survive lifesaving lessons at local waterfronts or beaches. Swim to Survive features three basic skills that can help people avoid panic in the water and prevent drowning. Instructors will bring personal floatation devices (PFDs) or lifejackets, paddleboards and a ton of enthusiasm to use in teaching your children basic water safety techniques. Like learning to ride a bike, water safety skills are lifelong skills, but they are skills that save lives, too.

Instructors will also offer first aid instruction and Boat Operator Accredited Training (BOAT). The first aid course will focus on basic rescue skills and lifesaving procedures, but, if time permits, may cover more complex techniques. The BOAT course will teach children about safe boating, and graduates will receive the Canadian Coast Guard pleasure craft operator card, which all pleasure boaters will require in 2009.

The Lifesaving Society promises a busy week filled with interesting information and fun. The only cost to your community will be the cost of hosting instructors and providing their accommodations. That's it! Wages, equipment fees, and all other course costs — such as books and licensing fees — have already been paid.

So where do you sign up? If your community can provide support and is willing to assist instructors throughout the week with basic transportation, call the Lifesaving Society office at 204-956-2124 and book a week for your community now.

If enough communities respond, the Lifesaving Society will be encouraged to consider expanding the program for next year. If water safety is an issue where you live, the Lifesaving Society would like to hear from you!

Because last summer's Northern Water Smart program was so successful, new funding will allow it to be expanded into more communities during 2006.

Fire Season Advice

Public Works

The onset of warm weather prompts us to repeat some timely advice published in a previous issue about staying prepared for the possibility of wildfire. Make sure you and your family are always prepared.

Keep available:

- battery-operated radio
- flashlights
- spare batteries
- first aid kit and essential medication
- emergency food and water
- children's emergency supplies such as formula and diapers

Review your family's emergency escape plan and contact information. To protect yourself and your family during forest fire emergencies:

- Be ready to evacuate all family members, including pets.
- Minimize smoke inhalation in the home by closing all windows and doors. A wet towel along the window and door seams will minimize smoke even further.
- Keep the radio on to keep informed about the potential emergency.
- Stay in touch with local emergency management and follow directions provided.

If you must evacuate:

- Follow closely all instructions provided by local authorities.
- Make sure you know the safe evacuation routes.
- Listen for media announcements and know about your destination or reception center before you leave.
- If there is time, shut off the water, gas and electricity.

Your local emergency co-ordinator and elected officials are community emergency resource people who can tell you about emergency powers and evacuation procedures.

Wildfire season is generally between April and mid-October. You can find links to a wealth of information on dealing with forest fires and other emergencies in Manitoba by visiting http://www.manitobaemo.ca.

You may also contact Jean Champagne, northern regional emergency officer at 204-782-1279 or jchampagne@gov.mb.ca.

Certification Corner

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This edition of Certification Corner is taken from the Operator Certification Study Guide, available from the AWWA Bookstore 800-926-7337 or www.awwa.org/bookstore. The study guide contains hundreds of questions and answers that are sourced for more information, as well as several practical appendixes. The questions were developed according to the Association of Boards of Certification need-to-know criteria. The guide is intended to give operators practice answering questions that are similar in format and content to the questions that appear on certification exams.

1) Which of the following causes air binding?

a) lack of liquid in a pump when it is first started

b) release of dissolved gases in saturated cold water when pressure decreases in filter beds

c) increase of air and thus a decrease of liquid in a pump long after it has been started

d) release of dissolved gases in saturated water when pressure increases in filter beds

2) The most common type of well used for public water systems is a

a) jetted well

b) driven well

c) drilled well

d) bored well

3) What is the maximum contaminant level goal for known or suspected carcinogens?

a) zero

b) .0001 to 0.001

c) depends on the chemical

d) known or suspected carcinogens only have maximum contaminant levels

4) A small tank containing 835 US gallons of water is to be disinfected using a hypochlorite solution. A dosage of 50 milligrams per litre is desired and the available chlorine is 12 per cent. How much hypochlorite solution should be added in ounces?

a) 12 ounces

b) 50 ounces

c) 128 ounces

d) 290 ounces

5) Water is being pumped from a water source with an elevation of 175 feet to 232 feet. What is the total head, if friction and minor losses are 9 feet.

a) 57 feet

b) 66 feet

c) 78 feet

d) 83 feet

6) Which of the following characteristics of a pump is shown on a pump curve?

a) wire-to-water horsepower

b) motor horsepower

c) friction loss

d) efficiency

Answers:

1. b 2. c 3. a 4. b 5. b 6. d

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Community Council members, community residents and departmental staff are strongly encouraged to submit feedback, comments, questions, suggestions and ideas to the editor.